FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 189 *26 September 1980*

ARGENTINA

Economy Minister Leaves for Meetings in United States B 1
EL ECONOMISTA Analyzes Foreign Debt Situation [5-11 Sep] B 1
Energy Secretariat Expects No Fuel Shortages [LA OPINION 25 Sep] B 2
FIP Protests Action Against Former La Rioja Governor B 2

BOLIVIA

ICFTU To Sue Interior Minister for Stolen Funds C 1
Police Arrest 300 for Lack of Identification Papers C 1
Briefs: Hydrocarbons Agreement With Colombia; Tin Shipment to Colombia; Trade Balance Figures; Cost of Living Increase

BRAZIL

Petroleum Imports To Be Reduced by $1 Billion D 1
Supplies From Iraq Suspended D 1
Chamber of Deputies Approves Figueiredo Trip to Chile D 1
Rumors Link Somoza to 'Mysterious Cargo' to Paraguay D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 24 Sep]
Anticommunist Organization Accused of Bomb Attacks [JORNAL DO BRASIL 19 Sep] D 2
Report on Interview With Former Communist Party Chief [O GLOBO 20 Sep] D 3
Briefs: Foreign Loan Situation D 3

COLOMBIA

Important M-19 Leader Arrested by Army F 1
Arrests in Bogota F 1
Regional Leaders Arrested F 1

PARAGUAY

Continued Reportage on Aftermath of Somoza Assassination H 1
Security Forces Intensify Dragnet [ABC COLOR 25 Sep] H 1
Police To Register Foreigners [HOY 25 Sep] H 1
Border Traffic Reported Normal [ABC COLOR 25 Sep] H 1
Accused Terrorist Denies Role [HOY 25 Sep] H 2
EL PUEBLO Scores Media 'Hypocrisy' in Somoza Coverage [25 Sep] H 3
Briefs: Foreign Minister to UN; Military Delegation to Uruguay; Commerce-Industry Minister Reinstated; Aluminum Plant Project H 4

PERU

Bolivia Accused of Detaining Foreign Union Leaders J 1
Mining Minister Sees Oil Reserves Exhausted in 3 Years J 1
Eleven Justices Dismissed in Supreme Court Shakeup J 1
Minister Denies State-Owned Agencies To Go to Private Hands [EXPRESO 17 Sep] J 2
Government To Pay Compensation to Media Owners J 2
Briefs: Cuban Refugees to Canada J 2

VENEZUELA

Government Offers To Mediate Between Iran, Iraq L 1
No Deadline Set for Colombian Border Agreement L 1
Energy Minister Hints OPEC Summit Meeting Unlikely L 1

PANAMA

Liberal Officials Report Electoral 'Irregularities' [LA PRENSA 23 Sep] N 1
Paper Says Regime Prevents Arias From Speaking to Nation [LA PRENSA 25 Sep] N 1
Station Denies Report N 1
Political Union Calls For Abstaining From Voting [LA PRENSA 25 Sep] N 2
Columnist Scores U.S. 'Violations' of Canal Treaty [MATUTINO 22 Sep] N 3

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Rice Surplus, Sales to Nicaragua Increase P 1

EL SALVADOR

Junta Member Duarte Appeals for People's Unity P 1
Duarte Comments on Left's 'War of Attrition' P 2
Government Condemns Attack on Land Reform Official P 3
Government Dissolves Electrical Workers Union P 3
Violence Death Toll Climbs to 60 in Past 48 Hours P 3
Explosions, More Deaths P 4
Extremists Attack Treasury Police Post in Guazaba [EL MUNDO 24 Sep] P 4
Paper Views Internal War Among Leftist Groups P 4
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 25 Sep]

GUATEMALA

Literacy Campaign, Social Programs Planned P 5
Measures Taken Against Coffee Rust Near Border P 5

HONDURAS

Salvadoran Helicopter Attacks Refugees in Border Area P 6
Government Acting To Deal With Nicaraguan Guardsmen P 6
Minister Denies Presence of Coffee Rust P 6
Businessmen Said Concerned Over Nicaraguan Import Reduction P 7
Briefs: Governors Sworn In P 7

NICARAGUA

Junta Member Cruz on 1981 Reactivation Plan, Devaluation P 8
Eden Pastora Views Somoza Killing, Related Matters P 9
Commentary: Reagan Continues Advocating Use of Force P 9
State Council Demands Controls on Somozists in Honduras P 9
Relief Efforts Being Organized for Flooded Areas P 10
Sandinist Youth Announces First National Assembly P 10

CUBA

Rodriguez Llompart Hails Soviet-Cuban Cooperation Q 1
Embassy Reacts to Dominican Refusal of Scholarships [Radio Free Grenada] Q 1
Commentary on Carter Popularity, Reagan Difficulties Q 2
Briefs: Puerto Rican Anniversary; Soviet Exhibit Q 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

GUYANA

Joint Fishing Company To Be Set Up With Libya V 1
[Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS 22 Sep]
U.S., Others Blamed for Failure of UN Session V 1

ECONOMY MINISTER LEAVES FOR MEETING IN UNITED STATES

PY251520 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2056 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Sep (NA)--Economy Miniter Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz left for the United States at 1749 today to attend international meetings. He was accompanied by the under secretary of foreign investments, Federico Dumas, and other aides. Martinez de Hoz made no statements at Ezeiza Airport, where he arrived by helicopter.

EL ECONOMISTA ANALYZES FOREIGN DEBT SITUATION

PY240335 Buenos Aires EL ECONOMISTA in Spanish 5-11 Sep 80 p 1

[Editorial: "Concern Over Foreign Debt"]

[Text] In the last 2 weeks the economic leadership has taken significant trouble to report in detail on various aspects of the structure of the foreign debt.

It is obviously trying to counteract the impact caused a few months ago by the central bank, when it released an advance summary of its 1979 yearly report. It became known then that the foreign debt had reached $19,034,000,000 because of the 116 percent increase of the commitments of the private sector and the 51 percent increase of those of the public sector, in both cases compared with the situation on 31 December 1978. The foreign commitments of the two sectors had thus risen to $9,074,000,000 and $9,960,000,000, respectively.

Foreign debt development so far this year has only contributed to making comments on the subject more critical. Although there was an increase in the total amount of foreign reserves in the weeks following the economy minister's message of 10 July, which compensated for the losses suffered during the banking crisis in the early months of this year, those new gains do not offer any firm ground of security, because they have their origin in very short-term foreign debts. It is known from unofficial sources that the private short-term debt alone, which was $950 million on 10 July, increased during 1 and 1/2 months to $2.3 billion through 90-day maturity loans. The foreign debt problem has thus taken a different turn because, according to the last central bank balance sheet, the inflow of foreign currencies via short term loans seems to have reached an end. The comment has been made that to maintain the flow of short-term private foreign loans, and chiefly to head off a dangerous exodus of capital, a foreign exchange insurance would be instituted, the same type of insurance that served as a guarantee for "swaps" [word in English] late in 1975.

Meanwhile, Martinez de Hoz took pains to explain that the figures must not be a cause for alarm because they are the most ample and generous in the world, since the figures represent both state and private obligations--whether the latter are guaranteed or not by the state--even including short-term commercial debts which climb as the economy opens. The economy minister even noted, if there were any need for him to do so, the substantial improvement of the foreign debt as the result of persistent activities before international organizations and the main financial markets.

A great deal of emphasis was given to the ratio between foreign reserves and foreign debt. which went up almost sevenfold to 0.55 since 1975. Of course, this ratio would have been even greater if the foreign debt had not been considerably increased by the inflow of short-term capital which was encouraged by prospects in the local market, an inflow that still continues despite the decline of nominal interest rates on time deposits in banks. These rates seem to have reached the lowest point since the process began.

There are many people who are wondering whether those credits which came in so easily would not go away swiftly in the factor comprised of imported inflation and the exchange rate (devaluation of the peso) were allowed to approximate too closely the internal inflation (internal prices)--a mechanism that has been vaunted under the name of "convergence" in Argentina.

On the other hand, nobody doubts that this is one of the alternatives, given the nature of short-term financing for importing goods and the flow of financial capital.

The central bank supposes that those obligations rotate by nature, and it insists that the level of reserves provides an adequate margin for maneuver.

For those reasons, the central bank considers that it can even be advantegeous that overall trade should go as high as $16 billion this year and that the trade balance should close without a large surplus but rather with a deliberate equilibrium.

Although currently reserves are below the $10.48-billion mark they reached on 31 December 1979--representing more than 19 months of imports--the monetary authorities are not concerned over the mounting obligations. The attitude is the same about short-term obligations--especially those that have to be paid next year, because nobody is thinking of converting them into medium-term obligations. The tranquillity seems to rest on the fact that more than 30 percent of the total obligations will come to maturity in more than 5 years, and that about $3 billion in foreign debt are rotating obligations. Moreover, the foreign reserves are there....

ENERGY SECRETARIAT EXPECTS NO FUEL SHORTAGES

PY252102 Buenos Aires LA OPINION in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 12

[Text] Officials on the Energy Secretariat stated last night that "in view of the existing fuel stocks imported during the first half of the year, the Persian Gulf conflict will not affect Argentina directly. This statement was made in view of the concern expressed by most nations over the rapid worsening of the situation in which incidents have developed into an undeclared war.

The Argentine officials pointed out that Argentina imports only 10 percent of the oil it consumes and that early purchases have allowed the country to stockpile fuels to the extent that no major problems are foreseen before the end of the year. The problem is truly serious in Brazil, which depends on imports for 80 percent of its oil.

FIP PROTESTS ACTION AGAINST FORMER LA RIOJA GOVERNOR

PY251441 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2050 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Sep (NA)- The Popular Leftist Front made public today "its strongest protest of the arbitrary detention and internal banishment of Carlos Menem, former La Rioja governor."

In a brief communique signed by FIP President Adelardo Ramos and other prominent leaders, the FIP states that "the government is trying once more to punish men like Carlos Menem and women like former President Isabel Peron for the popular madate which was bestowed upon them."

The FIP concludes by demanding "the immediate release" of Menem and stating that telegrams to this effect were sento to the military juntay, President Jorge Videla and Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy.

In addition to Ramos the communique was signed by Luis Maria Cabral, Alberto Guerberoff, Blas Manuel Alberti, Horacio Casarini, Pablo Fontdevila, Alberto Giobergia, Carlos del Campo, Hugo Stratta, Simon Gomez, Raul Dargoltz and Carlos Santander.

ICFTU TO SUE INTERIOR MINISTER FOR STOLEN FUNDS

PY251825 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2302 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Brussels, 24 Sep (LATIN-REUTER)--The world's largest noncommunist labor group today stated that it will sue the Bolivian interior minister for stealing from members of a delegation which recently visited Bolivia. In a press release, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions [ICFTU], which claims to have 56 million members, stated that Minister Arce Gomez himself collected part of the $28,900 which the delegates were forced to hand over.

POLICE ARREST 300 FOR LACK OF IDENTIFICATION PAPERS

PY251519 Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] La Paz, 24 Sep (AFP)--Men and women today lined up before the La Paz offices of the personal identification department to obtain identification papers. This concern of the population is due to the fact that yesterday between 0900 and 1200 (1300 and 1600 GMT) police arrested approximately 300 persons who did not have identification papers.

According to the authorities, Bolivians must carry their identification papers at all times, in addition to the appropriate military document, while all foreigners must register at the immigration bureau of the Interior Ministry. All airlines, bus lines and railroad companies are requesting identification papers before selling tickets.

BRIEFS

HYDROCARBONS AGREEMENT WITH COLOMBIA--La Paz, 23 Sep (AFP)--Jose Fernandez Isaza, president of Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL), and Antonio Velez, commercial manager of Bolivian Government Oil Deposits (YPFB), today signed a preliminary agreement which provides for the sale of 150,000 barrels of Bolivian gasoline to Colombia, as well as the exchange of knowledge and experts on hydrocarbons. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1644 GMT 23 Sep 80 PY]

TIN SHIPMENT TO COLOMBIA--La Paz, 19 Sep (AFP)--The National Smelting Enterprise (ENAF) has disclosed that for the first time in his history Bolivia has delivered a shipment of tin by air. Bolivia shipped 34,963 kg of tin to Colombia on a Bolivian Lloyd Airline flight. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1747 GMT 19 Sep 80 PY]

TRADE BALANCE FIGURES--According to information provided by the technical division of economic studies of the Bolivian central bank, the 1979 trade balance reflected a $102,348,000 deficit. The total value of imports amounted to $961,800,000, while exports amounted to $859,452,000. The most important supplier was the United States, from which Bolivia imported goods worth $268,951,000 and to which it exported $238,734,000 worth. The trade balance with the FRG is highly negative for Bolivia: $80,916,000 worth of imports against only $40,233,000 of exports. The trade balance with the LAFTA shows that imports amounted to $227,931,000 while exports totalled $207,149,000. Bolivia bought from Andean Group countries $32,187,000 and sold them $23,296,000 worth of merchandise. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Sep 80 p 9 PY]

COST OF LIVING INCREASE--La Paz, 18 Sep (LATIN)--The national statistics institute reported that the cost of living in Bolivia during the month of June reached 5.53 percent, which is the highest monthly increase reached in the past 10 years. That represents an increase of 1.78 percent over the same month in 1979. The Bolivian inflation rate during the first 6 months of the year reached 13.8 percent, as compared to 6.08 percent for the same period in 1979. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2245 GMT 18 Sep 80 PY]

PETROLEUM IMPORTS TO BE REDUCED BY $1 BILLION

PY241449 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] In view of the development of the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, the Brazilian Government will reduce by $1 billion its petroleum imports until the end of this year. This report has been released by Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals, who stated that this would be the way to maintain the trade balance deficit in less than $2 billion. Then, we must only await the development of events to take new measures.

This government decision has been made at a meeting held with the participation of the ministers of planning, mines and energy, and finance and the Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] president. Meanwhile, the supply of petroleum will be guaranteed by the available storage which is enough for 110 days, according to the mines and energy minister.

The minister added that byproducts are included in that storage, which are available for the refineries; and there is still the oil stored in tankers, without mentioning the domestic production which totals approximately 190,000 barrels daily.

Supplies From Iraq Suspended

PY251553 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Iraq has suspended the supply of 400,000 barrels of petroleum daily to Brazil as a consequence of Iran's control of the Straits of Hormuz. This report was released by Vice President of the Republic Aureliano Chaves and Petrobras President Shigeaki Ueki.

They also indicated that Iraq has proposed a new alternative to supply petroleum [words indistinct] by the Brazilian Government. Aureliano Chaves, who is presiding over the National Energy Commission, reported that deciding on the withdrawal of tankers from [words indistinct]. Chaves added that the government must assess all details of the crisis before deciding on a policy that may be more appropriate for the country's interests.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES APPROVES FIGUEIREDO TRIP TO CHILE

PY242322 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 24 Sep 80

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Excerpts] The Chamber of Deputies today authorized the president to travel to Chile. With (?274) favorable votes, 20 against and 8 abstentions, the plenum has authorized the president to leave the country and travel to Chile during the first 15 days of October.

RUMORS LINK SOMOZA TO 'MYSTERIOUS CARGO' TO PARAGUAY

PY251903 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Sep 80 p 15

[By Luis Fernando Emediato]

[Excerpts] At the very moment when Paraguay reopened its border on the Bridge of Friendship linking Foz de Iguazu with Puerto Presidente Stroessner, federal agents began to search through dozens of boxes, whose contents are still unknown, shipped from Miami and Europe to Paraguay, and presumably addressed to dictator Anastasio Somoza, who was assassinated on Wednesday in Asuncion.

The boxes were carried in six trailer trucks, which were also transporting some automobiles and (according to the agents) "spare parts of tractors." They were withheld by the Federal Revenue Department on the same day Somoza was assassinated. Nothing had been revealed on the subject before yesterday, when O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO discovered the cargo and practically precipitated the process of breaking the sealing wax on the boxes.

There were fantastic rumors circulating on the border 2 days ago that Somoza was killed not for political reasons but because of his obscure businesses, and that one of the reasons for his assassination was that mysterious cargo. It is true that the cargo exists. It consists of square boxes laid out in six trailer trucks, four of which have Paraguayan license plates (two of which have the numbers 10-6021 and 33-0641), and two of which have Brazilian license plates.

In other trucks there are two Mercedes-Benz cars, as well as a Jaguar that is said to be armored and (according to the most popular rumors) have two machineguns built into the doors. As far as we could find out, one Mercedes-Benz belongs to Paraguayan Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro. Since it was published in Paraguay that Somoza had presented a Mercedes-Benz as a gift to Montanaro, the rumors were that this was the car.

But, anyhow, regardless of whether the rumor is absurd or not, it is true that on the very day that Somoza died Minister Montanaro sent a representative to Foz de Iguazu to look for the Mercedes-Benz. Since the Federal Revenue Department has refused to relinquish the car, the minister himself (a federal agent confirms) went to Foz de Iguazu, from where he returned very irritated, because he did not achieve anything, either.

To complicate things even more, some angry Brazilians organized a picket line at noon in the middle of the Bridge of Friendship linking the two countries. This picketing was to prevent Paraguayans from crossing to Brazil, since Brasilians are not allowed to cross to the Paraguayan side. Paraguayan soldiers tried to attack the demonstrators, and a serious confrontation was imminent, when the commander of the [Brazilian] 1st Border Battalion, Col Felipe Jorge da Silva, sent his troops to the bridge. Fortunately, by order from Asuncion, the border was reopened less than 2 hours later.

Although one of the guards (they rotate each day) in front of the shed sheltering the six trucks referred to the cargo as "Somoza's business," Lazaro da Costa, head of the Foz de Iguazu Federal Revenue Department, stated that the theory that the cargo belongs to the assassinated dictator is "absolutely absurd and fantastic."

ANTICOMMUNIST ORGANIZATION ACCUSED OF BOMB ATTACKS

PY232208 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] The federal police believe that the 27 August bomb attacks in Rio de Janeiro against the OAB [Brazilian Bar Association], where employee Lyda Monteiro was killed, and against the town hall, where employee Jose Ribamar de Freitas was killed, were carried out by a rightist organization that is called the Vanguard of Communist Hunters [Vanguarda de Cacadores Comunistas] (VCC).

The main lead that is being followed up by the federal police is a letter that was sent to Radio Jornal do Brasil on 27 August in which the terrorists, even before the bombs exploded and without knowing the results, claimed that they were responsible for the attacks against lawyer Seabra Fagundes and against Councilman Antonio Carlos Carvalho, (PMDB) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party].

The OAB's president, Seabra Fagundes, said in Rio de Janeiro that the justice minister has informed him that the investigation into the bomb attack against the OAB "is progressing very well." [paragraph continues]

Seabra remarked that he did not know what was being investigated, "but I reserve the right to ask the minister for more concrete information regarding the investigation."

In Brasilia, the former industry and commerce minister during Geisel's tenure, Severo Gomes, again asserted that in 1976 Governor Paulo Egydio told him that Col Erasmo Dias knew the names of the persons responsible for the attack against the CEBRAP [Brazilian Analysis and Planning Center]. Egydio at that time said: "Col Erasmo Dias has already telephoned them (the perpetrators of the attack), and he told them that if they set off any more bombs he would arrest them." Severo Gomes recalls that the attacks did in fact stop.

REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH FORMER COMMUNIST PARTY CHIEF

PY231826 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Sep 80 p 6

[Text] Sao Paulo (O GLOBO)--Luis Carlos Prestes, former secretary general of the Brazilian Communist Party [PCB], has stated that resolutions approved by five state committees support all his positions. He then asked those who continue under his guidance to "learn how to break with the rightist and immobilist guidance of the central committee."

In an interview with the newspaper HORA DO POVO, Prestes stated that "the absence of communists as a unifying factor in the democratic front and their weak participation in events, their subordination to the most hesitant sectors of the opposition, and their political immobilism are the consequence of the rightist policy of the current PCB Central Committee."

Tenorio de Lima, member of the Executive Board of the PCB Central Committee, stated that Prestes' criticism shows that the "former secretary general is experiencing a profound crisis and is therefore seeking to divide the communists."

Life has already proved that division does not give the future to anyone. We have the examples of Marighela, Camara Ferreira and Mario Alves, who went astray and became lost. It is a pity that this comrade (Prestes) is walking on the same path.

Condemning the launching of the newspaper A VOZ OPERARIA by Luis Carlos Prestes--"the worst of all news"--Tenorio stated that "he insists on parallelism, fighting for a party which has nothing to do with ours."

"The organization, the entity, always survives, never the individual. He has not learned this yet and we regret it very much."

Tenorio also regretted the fact that Prestes does not want a dialogue with the current Central Committee.

This seems a great contradicti n to me: He talks of a dialogue, but avoids it.

The newspaper VOZ OPERARIA was reedited at national level at a price of 10 cruzeiros and issued with the number 161 dated the month of September.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN LOAN SITUATION--Brazil had already succeeded in getting foreign loans worth $8.52 billion as of Monday, and by the end of the year it must reach $10 billion. This is the argument to be taken by the Brazilian delegation to the IMF General Assembly to be held from 30 September to 3 October in Washington, seeking to prove that there is "an improvement in the country's economic situation." The Brazilian delegation will be headed by Planning Ministry Secretary General Flavio Pecora. [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Sep 80 p 1 PY]

IMPORTANT M-19 LEADER ARRESTED BY ARMY

PA250431 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] Bogota--The army today captured Luis Francisco Otero Cifuentes, who is listed as one of the most important members of the 19 April Movement [M-19]. His name has often been mentioned in connection with the seizure of the Dominican Embassy and it has even been said that he was the one who directed this action.

The military intelligence service later said that Otero belonged to a different M-19 front. He is known by the alias of Rafael. He is 36.

Arrests in Bogota

PA241814 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] Bogota--Nineteen persons presumably linked with the self-styled 19 April Movement [M-19] have been arrested in Bogota in the last 24 hours during raids staged by the intelligence corps of the Brigade of Military Institutes [BIM] in the Restrepo and Teusaquillo districts.

The BIM public relations office reported that handguns, rifles and other items exclusively used by the armed forces were confiscated.

Regional Leaders Arrested

PA260249 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0131 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Bogota, 25 Sep (LATIN)--Four leaders of the 19 April Movement (M-19) who were being court-martialed in absentia are among those arrested recently near Bogota, military sources confirmed today.

They were captured between Friday and yesterday after a military operation in the rural sector of Tocaima, approximately 120 km south of Bogota, which thwarted a conference of the leaders of the subversive movement.

Those captured were identified as Isidro Antonio Merchan, chief of information of the M-19; Luis Francisco Otero Cifuentes, regional director of the movement; Antonio Jose Navarro Wolf and Jose Yamel Riano, in charge of the finances of the subversive group.

The subversives captured by troops of the 10th Brigade in the departments of Tolima and Cundinamarca, were turned over to the president of the verbal court-martial, Major Celestino Gomez Galvis told this agency.

The brigade chief of staff said nine other subversives were captured along with the four leaders. They were identified as Ricardo Leon Vargas, William Ramirez, Diego Canarete Velez, Digna Morales, Luis Emilio Roa, Rodrigo Restrepo Valencia, Rafael Navarro Wolf, Ricardo Lopez Hernandez and Laureano Rodriguez Dias.

All of the regional guerrilla leaders had been called to the meeting scheduled for Friday, 18 September, in Tocaima.

The "summit" was to be opened by the foremost M-19 leaders, Jaime Bateman Cayon and Carlos Toledo Plata, who have presumably left the country, a military spokesman said.

The presence of the subversives was discovered the day before the meeting by the military, prompting the escape of the guerrillas.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON AFTERMATH OF SOMOZA ASSASSINATION

Security Forces Intensify Dragnet

PY251802 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 13

[Excerpt] Military and police forces yesterday carried out a vast operation at the points of access to Asuncion and in the outskirts of the city, with the objective of capturing the subversives that killed Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle last Wednesday at Espana and America Streets. Police and military forces raided several houses, and many people were arrested.

According to reports, checkpoints have been established at Km 9 of Eusebio Ayala Avenue, at General Santos and Felix Bogado Avenues, at Madame Lynch and Aviadores del Chaco Avenues and on Quinta Avenue. Small groups of military officers and policemen are carrying out operations in the neighborhoods located on the outskirts of the city. They are visiting houses to identify their occupants.

The proper authorities have noted that they have intensified dragnet operations in the Asuncion metropolitan area and on the outskirts of the city in response to several recommendations issued by the security organizations that are cooperating in the search for the terrorists.

They added that the city has been divided into two areas, and that strategic checkpoints have been established in those sectors where the assassins of General Somoza could be hiding. The police and military forces are checking the identification cards of all citizens and all cars that pass through the checkpoints.

Police To Register Foreigners

PY251145 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 12

[Text] The public relations department of the metropolitan police issued a notice yesterday to all foreigners living in Paraguayan territory. The 5-item communique states:

1. All foreigners living in Paraguay must appear before the police investigations department, foreigner registration bureau, with their personal documents for identification.

2. The foreigner registration bureau will supply each citizen with a card certifying that he has fulfilled the above requirement. The card will be valid for 30 days, after which all foreigners will have to repeat the procedure.

3. The cards issued to the persons will guarantee their movement within Paraguayan territory.

4. The cards will be issued only and exclusively to foreigners with permanent residence, foreigners with temporary residence or who are seeking temporary residence, and those foreigners who have not yet taken any steps to obtain residence.

5. Tourists will follow the appropriate legal procedures.

Those to whom these instructions apply must appear at the offices of the above mentioned police bureau between 0700 and 1100 and between 1500 and 1700.

Border Traffic Reported Normal

PY251910 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 13

[Excerpts] Security personnel at the international airport have said that domestic flights of private aircraft are still banned. The ban on these flights has been in force since Wednesday, 17 September.

The Military Air Transport (TAM) Company is making regular flights throughout the national territory, but are carrying only Paraguayan citizens as passengers, airport personnel reported.

International airlines, however, can operate normally, with the usual number of passengers. The number of guards at the international airport has been increased.

Border traffic with Brazil at Presidente Stroessner is normal for Paraguayan and Brazilian citizens, but not Argentine, Uruguayan and other countries' citizens.

Control is still very strict at customs in Encarnacion, and only a few persons are allowed to cross the river to Posadas, Argentina.

According to customs authorities, those persons cross the river habitually, such as "those who engage in trade across the border or those working for the Yacyreta project."

The situation in Pilar is the same as last week, when customs were closed. Policemen are patrolling the port and customs facilities.

The border crossing at Ponta Pora has not been closed at any time, but police and army personnel have been exerting tight control over persons and cars moving in either direction.

Accused Terrorist Denies Role

PY252044 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 11, 12

[Excerpts] Yesterday at about noon time we were able to establish contact with a telephone number in Managua. After waiting for several minutes we were answered by a man who assured us that he was Victor Thomas, the man who the Paraguayan police have charged is one of the subversives involved in the killing of Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle. During a 45-minute telephone conversation he answered all our questions. Although we have not confirmed his identity we believe we may be able to do it today.

[Question] How long have you been in Nicaragua?
[Answer] I arrived in Nicaragua on 23 February 1980, about 6 or 7 months ago.

[Question] Did you ever leave Nicaragua during this period?
[Answer] I have never been out of Nicaragua or even toured the interior of the country.

[Question] Have you ever been in Asuncion before this period?
[Answer] I was in Asuncion when I was about 14 years old.

[Question] How old are you now?
[Answer] I am 26 years old.

[Question] When did you leave Argentina?
[Answer] Around the time of the world soccer championship in 1978.

[Question] What was your involvement in the Argentine extreme leftist movement?
[Answer] Look, I only want to talk about my alleged involvement in the assassination of General Somoza to show that the Nicaraguan Government was not involved in the killing of Somoza, as some are charging. I do not want to make any other sort of statement.

[Question] If you were not involved in the attack, how were the Paraguayan authorities able to identify you so quickly, to have your picture and your records?
[Answer] That is precisely what I do not understand. Today the Nicaraguan newspaper NUEVO DIARIO publishes an article entitled: "Thomas Cannot Get Over His Astonishment." What I say in this article is that I am completely taken by surprise by my being suddenly involved in such a deed.

[Question] Do you know any of the other persons who have been identified by the Paraguayan police?
[Answer] I do not remember the names.

[Question] Jorge Omar Lewinger....
[Answer] I have not met any of them personally. I have never seen them.

[Question] How about Hugo Alfredo Yrurzun, the leader of the group?
[Answer] No, I really do not know him.

[Question] Do you mean that you were not involved with these persons?
[Answer] No, I was not.

[Question] What other alibi can you give us to prove that you were not in Asuncion on the date of Somoza's assassination?
[Answer] The best evidence I can give you is the testimony of my coworkers who witnessed that I have not been absent from work a single day. I am working here at TELCOR, and I am also trying to finish my electrical engineering studies here in Managua. On 16 September I was complying with all the requirements of the subject. I signed all the forms in the presence of a Jesuit priest.

[Question] What are the other two names?
[Answer] I am just telling you what the newspaper reports are saying. Omar Lewinger is working in a Central American country. I do not remember the name of the other companero who is reportedly under arrest, serving some sentence in some Argentine jail.

[Question] Are you going to make any other statement to explain your position?
[Answer] I have said very little to NUEVO DIARIO. It was an initiative that I took to **try** to explain that I was not involved **in an** action of such a nature. I want to make clear that they deliberately issued false information to involve the reconstruction government of Nicaragua in the killing of General Somoza. This is why I want to deny that I was involved.

[Question] But you have been identified by the alias of Julian or Foca and by your involvement in the reorganization committee of the 17 October Revolutionary Front?
[Answer] I want to note that the real name is 17 October. I am not denying the fact that I sympathize with the Argentine People's Popular Demand Movement [Movimiento de Reivindicacion de la Argentina], which is made up of a series of organizations and political groups that want to overthrow President Videla. As for the other charges, I have not been involved in any other movement. I would define myself as another member of the popular movement.

[Question] A source reports that you have attended training schools in Cuba since you disappeared in 1978 and only reappeared in 1980.
[Answer] That is completely false. It is crazy. My movements are perfectly documented. When I left Argentina in 1978 I was in Brazil for approximately 1 year. Because of my precarious income, the church, justice and peace [movement] paid for my trip to the Netherlands, where I taught wood and metal carving.

[Question] How did you end up in Nicaragua?
[Answer] Since I like to play the guitar, I always played at the solidarity movements sponsored by the local parishes. One of these movements was in support of the Sandinist movement, which at that time was just becoming well-known in Nicaragua. Since I got along so well with the group, I decided to visit Nicaragua.

EL PUEBLO SCORES MEDIA 'HYPOCRISY' IN SOMOZA COVERAGE

PY251958 Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 1

[Commentary: "Hypocrites"]

[Text] Enough of an uproar has been made regarding the latest criminal events--the violent death of former dictator Somoza and those accompanying him. It is a planned and synchronized uproar, with its respective sensationalism, with the intention of covering up unjustified and unnecessary acts of violence. Nothing has been clarified, and it has only served to cause general alarm, panic and enormous harm to tourism and the farming sector, which has already suffered price cuts and even the loss of perishable export goods.

Up to here, everything comes within the framework of the official and police actions that everyone knows about; but there is one other aspect: The local media, which calls itself independent, has smothered the country with its mournful and loathsome load of news--sometimes true, sometimes doubtful--with a touch of hypocrisy that has drawn a lot of attention.

What has powerfully attracted our attention is the pathetic tone of their newscasts, which saturate the country 24 hours a day, regarding the death of the great jackal. This reminds us of a different type of conduct--silent and listless--regarding criminal events that were very much closer to us and much more criminal, because they were officialized and unpunished and were completedly hused up by the local press and radio media, some because of complicity with the regime, others out of cowardice. The media were badly needed for the defense of innocent victims in events such as the razing of peasants' houses in Jejui, the 10 criminal deaths in Caaguazu at the hands of the regime's supporters and the police and similar events that have filled us with terror. And we have felt alone, unprotected, without media solidarity.

When we needed the friendly Paraguayan hand of the radio and press media in those days when we desperately invoked the enforcement of laws on individual security and human rights and when we protested against officialized violence, denouncing the death of honest citizens in police offices of the capital and the cowardly mistreatment and humiliatioln of hundreds of Paraguayans for defending th ir rights--in those days we only found a desert of silence. The radio stations and the majority of the press were silent, as though they were accomplices of the crimes.

Today we do not protest about the solidarity that has been demonstrated regarding the assassination of the great Nicaraguan jackal, but we do have a right to call them hypocrites without any solidarity for the Paraguayan people in their times of anguish facing officialized terror.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN MINISTER TO UN--Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues yesterday left for New York where he will attend the UN General Assembly, heading the Paraguayan delegation. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 19 Sep 80 p 11 PY]

MILITARY DELEGATION TO URUGUAY--Montevideo, 3 Sep (TELAM)--A Paraguayan military delegation made up of 42 officers headed by Brig Gen Raimundo Florentin, director of the Paraguayan command and general staff college, is visiting Uruguay. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0127 GMT 3 Sep 80 PY]

COMMERCE-INDUSTRY MINISTER REINSTATED--The National Executive Branch yesterday issued a decree reinstating Delfin Ugarte Centurion as industries and commerce minister. During his absence on sick leave the post had been held by the finance minister, Gen (Ret) Cesar Barrientos. [Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Sep 80 p 9 PY]

ALUMINUM PLANT PROJECT--The British group Hill Samuel Developments Limited of London has proposed to the Paraguayan Government to build an aluminum plant which would produce 135,000 tons of aluminum per year and could begin operating in 1984 using the power generated by the first turbine of Itaipu Dam. [Asuncion LA TRIBUNA In Spanish 17 Sep 80 p 1 PY]

BOLIVIA ACCUSED OF DETAINING FOREIGN UNION LEADERS

PY221842 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1852 GMT 20 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Lima, 20 Sep (LATIN)--The Confederation of Workers of Peru (CPT) charged today that the Bolivian military government has detained five foreign union leaders who had been invited to Bolivia to corroborate alleged human right violations.

The CPT states in a communique that the union leaders will be tried by a "military court" since the Bolivian interior minister has said they are "agents of international subversion and because they have been involved in creating disorder in the country." The union leaders, who had been invited by their Bolivian counterparts, are members of the Special Commission for the Defense of Human Rights of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU).

The communique, signed by the CPT secretary general, Julio Cruzado Zavala, makes an appeal to international union centers to exercise pressure "to avoid the perpetration of a shameful deed that has been repudiated by governments and workers."

According to the CPT, the detained union leaders are Italian Enzo Friso, director of the WFTU public relations department; Luigi Cal, the WFTU's Italian representative; Alberto Mondaca, Colombian representative to the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers (ORIT); Tomas Alberti, Venezuelan representative to the Confederation of Venezuelan Workers (CTV); and Ulf Asp, representative to the Confederation of Swedish Workers (LO), which also includes labor unions from Norway and Denmark.

In addition to condemning and repudiating the violation of human rights, the CPT also requests the intervention of international organizations such as the United Nations, the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the OAS.

MINING MINISTER SEES OIL RESERVES EXHAUSTED IN 3 YEARS

PY190330 Paris AFP in Spanish 0102 GMT 13 Sep 80

[Text] Lima, 12 Sep (AFP)--Mining and Energy Minister Pedro Pablo Kuczynski yesterday reported to the Senate that Peruvian oil reserves, estimated at 750 million barrels, would be exhausted in just 3 years. He added that the only way to stave off this serious threat, which would force Peru to convert from a hydrocarbon exporting country to an importer, thus greatly reducing its international currency reserves, is to implement a plan of action with three basic points.

In a report to a Senate commission, the minister said that his plan covers the exploration of reserves in areas adjacent to the oil pipeline from the Amazon jungle, secondary (?exploitation) of the Talara oil deposit (located in the northern part of the country) and the exploration of new fields in Madre de Dios in the Amazon region. In addition, the minister said, we should implement a national electrification plan to promote the development of towns in the interior of the country, which are really forgotten.

Finally, he announced that the current mining law would be modified to update it to the requirements of the current mining situation. He added that this year the country will collect $2.6 billion through mineral and oil exploitation.

ELEVEN JUSTICES DISMISSED IN SUPREME COURT SHAKEUP

PY251644 Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Summary] Lima, 24 Sep (AFP)--The Peruvian Senate last night dismissed 11 justices of the Supreme Court and confirmed the remaining 8, in line with the cleanup of the judiciary branch provided for in the new constitution.

The dismissal of the 11 justices, including the chairman of the Supreme Court, Cesar Fernandez, was based on their lack of independence from the executive branch and on the fact that they had not only been appointed by the military government but also had served its interests, rejecting even the most legally justified requests of the opposition.

MINISTER DENIES STATE-OWNED AGENCIES TO GO TO PRIVATE HANDS

PA221856 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 17 Sep 80 p 4

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Pedro Pablo Kuczynski yesterday said: "The government will not turn over the Peruvian State Mining Enterprise, the Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise or the State Petroleum Agency to private enterprise. There has been a mistake and things have been misinterpreted."

He added that these agencies will keep their present structure, even though they will be given more autonomy so that they can freely hire technicians and professionals without having to wait for decrees.

In his appearance before the chamber mining commission at the legislative palace yesterday, he praised the successes of the Peruvian State Mineral Marketing Company [MINPECO] in developing new markets, especially in China and Latin America.

Unfortunately, he said, this marketing agency had to paid high sales commissions which, added to bad administrative practices, especially in the past year, resulted in $80 million in losses.

Kuczynski said that MINPECO must be changed to eliminate its monopolistic nature, but it should keep its right to market the production of the public sector furnished by the Peruvian State Mining Enterprise, the Peruvian Iron Mines Enterprise and the Central Peruvian Mining Enterprise.

GOVERNMENT TO PAY COMPENSATION TO MEDIA OWNERS

PY190529 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Lima, 17 Sep (AFP)--Justice Minister Felipe Osterling has stated that the owners of Peruvian newspapers and radio and television stations which were nationalized during General Juan Velasco's regime will be compensated for damage to their properties.

The minister said that this will be one of the measures implemented by President Fernando Belaunde's government as soon as he receives the special powers requested from Congress to solve the problems created by the confiscation of these media.

The minister said that before discussing compensation, all laws promulgated by the military government on communications media will have to be annulled. He said that the situation of each medium will then be discussed with the owner.

The 120-day special power requested by the president may be granted tonight by the Chamber of Deputies. The bill will then be passed to the Senate, where the government also has a majority.

BRIEFS

CUBAN REFUGEES TO CANADA--Lima, 21 Sep (AFP)--It was reported here today that a group of 26 male and 22 female Cuban refugees traveled to Canada early this morning, where they will join 236 other Cuban refugees. The departure, which was overseen by members of the police forces, the Red Cross, officials of the Peruvian Foreign Ministry and the Canadian Embassy, was uneventful. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1353 GMT 21 Sep 80 PY]

GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN IRAN, IRAQ

PA251851 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1317 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Caracas, 25 Sep (LATIN)--According to an official communique, Venezuela offered last night to mediate between Iran and Iraq, its two OPEC partners, to end the armed confrontation which started 4 days ago.

The communique issued by the secretariat general of the presidency noted that chief of state Luis Herrera Campins "has followed the deplorable course of events between Iran and Iraq, nations with which we have close international ties, with serious concern and interest."

Iran, Iraq and Venezuela are three of the OPEC founding members and the communique said that the Venezuelan Government "is expressing its willingness to cooperate so that violence can end and peace can be restored between the people of Iran and Iraq."

NO DEADLINE SET FOR COLOMBIAN BORDER AGREEMENT

PA230410 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2048 GMT 22 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Caracas, 22 Sep (EFE)--The Venezuelan Government reaffirmed today that there is no deadline for the signing of an agreement with Colombia on the demarcation of the maritime and under water areas.

Acting Foreign Minister Oswaldo Paez Pumar expressed his government's position in reply to a dispatch from Bogota, according to which the agreement would be signed on 16 October 1980 in Caraballeda, Venezuela. Paez Pumar emphasized that it is "impossible to predict" when the negotiations on the Gulf of Venezuela will end, although he conceded that the talks have been positive. The information referred to by the acting foreign minister emphasized that members of the Colombian delegation negotiating with Venezuela on the dispute "forecast a definite agreement" by the time of the Caraballeda meeting.

The acting foreign minister said that great strides have been made in the talks for a definite understanding but that no deadline can be set yet.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the Colombian delegation will discuss the results of the forthcoming 6 October meeting with the armed forces and congress. Reports from Cucuta, a Colombian city near the Venezuelan border, state that a draft of a possible agreement is ready and will be discussed with the sectors represented in the Colombian Congress. If an agreement is reached, said those reports, it would be signed on 17 December in Santa Marta, Colombia, during the summit of heads of state which will be held there to commemorate the 150th anniversary of liberator Simon Bolivar's death.

ENERGY MINISTER HINTS OPEC SUMMIT MEETING UNLIKELY

PA260326 Paris AFP in Spanish 2112 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Caracas, 25 Sep (AFP)--The war between Iraq and Iran has virtually canceled the summit of OPEC chiefs of state scheduled for 4 November in Baghdad on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, it was stated here today. Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said the climate is not proper for the meeting due to the hostilities between the two member countries of the organization. However, he said Rene Ortiz, OPEC secretary general, told him that he was going ahead with plans for a European meeting of the OPEC energy ministers scheduled for 14 October. At that meeting the ministers are to draft papers for the Baghdad summit.

Calderon said the current circumstances advise a process of consultation of the OPEC countries during the coming week to examine the viability of the two meetings as he told Ortiz. He added that no definitive decision has been made yet on the two meetings, hinting that this will be decided during the consultations in the coming week.

LIBERAL OFFICIALS REPORT ELECTORAL 'IRREGULARITIES'

PA251857 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Sep 80 p 1-A

["As of today" column]

[Text] Two prominent National Liberal leaders, one of them president of the party, have just filed serious charges of daily irregularities occurring during the electoral campaign in Herrera Province. This charge, together with that filed by provincial teachers, is just one small indication of the overt electoral partiality of the regime and it confirms the suspicion of all Panamanians concerning the value of the official promises to hold clean elections. The Liberal leaders' charge includes specific data on the sinister scope of the fraud being planned. It is beginning to show in the intention to purchase votes upon instructions from higher office, to transport voters from other provinces in official vehicles and to intimidate the people into voting for the official candidates. We have received similar reports from many parts of the country and they all point to the same thing: a large-scale fraud to offset opposition votes and a high rate of expected voter abstention due to the marked lack of popular interest in a dishonest election.

PAPER SAYS REGIME PREVENTS ARIAS FROM SPEAKING TO NATION

PA260348 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 1-A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] No one can believe the government's repeated promises that it will preside over honest elections when its own acts deny this with an almost monotonous regularity. The most recent and perhaps the most serious of these actions is the regime's pressure on the television channels to prevent Dr Arnulfo Arias from addressing the country to explain his position and that of his party regarding Sunday's elections in view of the confusion which has been deliberately created by interested sectors. Dr Arias has been president of the country three times and is leader of Panama's majority party. No one, not even his most bitter enemies, dare deny that he is the country's most representative political leader. The regime has clearly revealed to everyone the true nature of the forthcoming elections. There is an attempt to overwhelm the voters with the "realities" of the regime while the spokesman of broad sectors of the public is silenced. Nevertheless, no coercion of publicity tricks can hide the antidemocratic character of a government which prevents those who oppose it from expressing themselves and which plans to hold elections while it prevents the leader of the most important opposition political party from stating his position.

Station Denies Report

PA260218 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Local press reports have indicated that efforts to buy television time for a speech by Arnulfo Arias Madrid have been unsuccessful in view of the refusal of the two television stations, which were subjected to the government's pressure. Such reports are groundless. Televisora Nacional wishes to make it clear to the public that at no time has either Arnulfo Arias Madrid, three times president of Panama, or the National Directorate of the Panamenist Party or some of its members of supporters approached the general management of the news department of this enterprise to request paid or free time so Dr Arias could address the country to explain his position.

POLITICAL UNION CALLS FOR ABSTAINING FROM VOTING

PA260419 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Sep 80 p 8C

["Manifesto to the Panamanian people from the Union of the Revolutionary Left"]

[Text] The Panamanian state is in a profound crisis that affects the nation's economic, political and social order.

Today our country is bound hand and foot to the interests of the U.S. transnationals, the external debt strangles our economy, the Torrijos-Carter treaties legalize the Yankee military bases, allow intervention in perpetuity and force Panama to be an ally in the U.S. warlike activities in the continent and in the rest of the world. In addition, our men, women and children in the cities and the fields suffer increased unemployment, low wages, high living costs, lack of medicine and hospitals, a housing shortage, the destruction of education, illiteracy, malnutrition, higher fares and scarcity of transportation. At the same time, the geneficiaries of the financial, banking, national and foreign insurance groups, have multiplied....

The inability of the military regime at the service of the bourgeoisie and U.S. imperialism to solve the present serious problems is obvious, as well as its repressive, brutal, antidemocratic and antiworker nature.

In their desperation to hide the scandalous failure of their social, economic and political initiatives, they now seek through a restricted "democratic opening" to sell our people the false belief in electoral processes which have been vitiated beforehand and which do not even permit the voices of the lower classes to be heard. Only the wealthy and those enjoying the government's blessing can register a party. To participate in the "election" of nonlegislating legislators means to believe in individual solutions and to lend oneself as an instrument to forge false illusions.

The present poses a challenge to the progressive and revolutionary groups to close ranks and raise the banner of the true aspirations of the people.

Our obligation as organizations commited to the historic project of the working classes does not allow us to remain aloof from the political scene. That is why we have agreed to join efforts, tasks and actions during the development of the so-called "electoral process" to combat, on the side of our people, the electoral illusions, the military regime and the false prophets who, disguised as "revolutionaries" or "bpposition", only seek a readjustment of the situation to continue profiting through our people's suffering.

Our organizations, the Socialist Labor Front (ML), the Panamanian Anti-Imperialist Front (MAP) and the Socialist Revolutionary Movement (MSR), have decided to build a union in this struggle, based on a revolutionary program and concept, to organize and lead the masses under the following watchwords:

1) To fight for democratic freedoms; 2) to fight against the high cost of living and for a progressive wage scale; 3) to fight for a general wage increase; 4) to fight for the derogation of Law 95, job stability, the right to strike and against unemployment; 5) to fight for the right to health, housing and a complete and integrated education; 6) to fight for an authentic agrarian reform and for the right to the land by whoever works it; 7) to fight for the authentic recovery of our principal natural resources, the canal, the wrongly called Canal Zone, and for the expulsion of the military bases from our territory.

A priority task for our organizations in this historic period is to participate jointly with the masses, instruct and guide them to understand the scope and presumptions of the military regime, the protector of the capitalist system, with its electoral farce of September 1980, to abstain from participating in it and, on the contrary, to demand on the streets, in factories, stores and districts, the true, effective favorable solutions to the great ailments affecting us all.

[Signed] For the Union of the Democratic Left: the Socialist Labor Front, the Panamanian Anti-Imperialist Movement, the Socialist Revolutionary Movement.

COLUMNIST SCORES U.S. 'VIOLATIONS' OF CANAL TREATY

PA260340 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 Sep 80 pp 1, 8-A

[Luis Restrepo Rosas column: "Patriotic Concern"]

[Text] Juan A. Tack, like all Panamanians patriotically committed to our country, has asked a question which is certainly of concern to Panama and the entire world: In his column in this newspaper on 17 September, Tack asked: What is happening to the signatories to the Panama Canal neutrality treaty?

In the same article, former Foreign Minister Tack indicated that "the historic truth is that the United States, regardless of who is president, was not and is not interested in the neutrality of the Panama Canal... If it signed the aforementioned treaty it was precisely due to the give and take characteristic of all diplomatic negotiations."

That is the truth. Proof of this is that after having signed and approved the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the United States has openly violated those treaties without caring about Panama's opposition or the world's reaction.

In the case of the Panama Canal neutrality treaty, the Panamanians are aware that an entire program of aggression against Latin America is being launched from Panama. Despite the communiques of the Southern Command arguing the opposite, it is known that the U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal area are a center of conspiracy against Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and other Latin American nations on the State Department's "doubtful" list. Aggression against the Caribbean is also maintained from the U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal area. Cuba, Jamaica and Grenada are countries in the Pentagon's imperialist strategy as ones "which will disappear the moment U.S. military planners deem it necessary."

This will occur with Carter, Reagan, Anderson or any other U.S. president. We must recall President Carter's furious reaction because the Soviets got ahead of him in Afghanistan, whose occupation by U.S. armed forces had been planned with the cooperation of Pakistan and other neighboring countries. As far as the neutrality of the Panama Canal is concerned, President Carter will not hesitate one second to unleash from the U.S. military bases in the Panama Canal area a war against Central America and the Caribbean. Neither would President Carter hesitate to unleash actions against Panama similar to the ones of 1917 when the country was occupied by the U.S. Army.

The nations of the world know this, Tack. That is why countries are hesitant to sign the Panama Canal neutrality treaty.

The leaders of the world's nations know it is a document with no real value for the United States. The entire world views the Central American events and it knows about the massive military aid the United States is sending to the military-Christian Democratic junta which is killing the Salvadoran people. It is known that despite some disagreements with the Romeo Lucas government in Guatemala, the Guatemalan military are receiving economic and military aid, experts and all that they need to continue to murder the Guatemalan young people.

In light of this and the annóunced U.S. aggression in the Caribbean, very few nations have decided to sign the Panama Canal neutrality treaty. For the leaders of the nations of the world, that treaty is nothing but a hypocritical mask used by the United States to try to hide its aggressive plans.

The Panamanians would like the Panama Canal to be a canal for peace. But while the United States can get its way, the Panama Canal will be a canal for war, and very few nations will be willing to become the Pentagon's accomplice in that objective.

COSTA RICA

RICE SURPLUS, SALES TO NICARAGUA INCREASE

PA251652 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Costa Rica has sold 5,000 metric tons of this year's rice harvest to Nicaragua. Carlos Eduardo Robert Gongora, executive president of the National Production Council, said this year's harvest has been estimated at 210,000 metric tons.

Commenting on the sale to Nicaragua, Robert said last year's crop was the largest crop in the country's history. Since 1974, our country has had a surplus for export and we must sell it quickly, Robert said.

The increase in the contract with the Nicaraguan Government totals 5,000 tons of rice. The contract was originally signed for 2,000 tons but yesterday afternoon it was increased by [as heard] 5,000 tons of shelled rice, Robert added. We feel the country can export a larger amount because it has a much larger surplus for export.

Exports last year totaled 42,000 [figure as heard] metric tons. Bearing in mind that 5,000 metric tons [figure as heard] were exported last year, it can be realized that this first export sale authorized by the council is quite conservative.

The sale is a government-to-government sale, Robert said. This is a direct sale with no middleman involved. The council is making the sale to the institution that acts as its counterpart in Nicaragua.

EL SALVADOR

JUNTA MEMBER DUARTE APPEALS FOR PEOPLE'S UNITY

PA252330 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Speech to nation by junta member Jose Napoleon Duarte in San Francisco Gotera, Morazan Department, 25 September--recorded]

[Excerpts] I speak to you on behalf of the revolutionary government junta to greet you on this day in which the revolutionary government has decided to visit the city of San Francisco Gotera to discuss with you some important issues of national life which are part of the historic times in which we are living.

On 15 October the armed forces made a decision. They said: We do not want to continue to be participants in injustice. We want to struggle to give freedom to the people. We want to give the people the opportunity to live in justice and with dignity.

This was the armed forces decision. That is why the armed forces called on all who love and desire freedom to help them govern. This is why you have here a group of men determined to struggle alongside the armed forces so the people will have those two essential things: Justice and freedom. As part of that effort, we have promoted a plan, a plan that will change the fundamental structure of the country, because to resolve the problem of violence one must destroy the root of the problem. The root of the problem is the abandonment of the people. It is the abandonment of the youth who have no opportunities. Therefore, we must use all the resources in our reach so there will be justice in our fatherland. That is why the revolutionary government has decided to undertake the essential structure changes that the fatherland needs.

But this is not enough. In the short term we must solve the problem which all of us, and perhaps you more than others, are facing. That is the problem of violence. How many young men do you see with hearts filled with hatred and who only understand violence and who are carrying rifles, ready to kill or be killed?

Why? Perhaps because of an ideal--an ideal that can be achieved with these reforms and this revolution without the need for death or blood. That is why it is important that we believe that there is still a path of hope, the path of the peaceful revolution, the path of the democratic revolution, the path of opening doors, the path of dialogue, the path by which all Salvadorans can express their viewpoints without fear, without rancor or hatred, without death and bloodshed. This is perhaps the most important change we have to achieve in our fatherland.

Ladies and gentlemen: Those who still harbor in their hearts the belief that they can crush [words indistinct] think about what you are doing. Think of the harm you are doing to the Salvadoran people. Think that it is no longer a time for personal privileges and that all Salvadorans must be united.

It does not matter how we thought 1 month ago, 1 year ago or 10 years ago. The important thing is that all Salvadorans who believe in freedom and justice united and work together because in this way we will be able to face these problems which have gone beyond national levels. I think all of you are aware that El Salvador has become a center of international insurgent struggle because Cubans, Nicaraguans, Panamanians and people from other (?Latin American) countries want to come to our country to kill Salvadorans. (?We cannot permit this) and we cannot be the [word indistinct] tools of [word indistinct] and death. Instead, we must unite to work together so we can overcome this violence and death.

DUARTE COMMENTS ON LEFT'S 'WAR OF ATTRITION'

PA251904 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0215 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (EFE)--The Salvadoran left has been "defeated" and it is now engaging in a "war of attrition," Jose Napoleon Duarte said in San Salvador during an interview with the Mexican newspaper EL UNIVERSAL GRAFICO. The paper reported here today that the Salvadoran Christian democratic junta member has said that "El Salvador is going through a war of attrition as a result of the razing and destruction promoted by the extreme left."

He said that the leftwing organizations "would like to cause a nationwide panic." He added that some time ago "they wanted an outright military confrontation and expected the junta and the army to respond militarily." However, he went on, "the main response was political" on the part of the government. "We have forced them to change their own strategy and this may be the beginning of their defeat," Duarte noted.

According to EL UNIVERSAL GRAFICO, the Christian democratic leader stated that "our objective is to isolate the extreme leftists and extreme rightists in order to set up a government of the people."

Duarte added that the "communists" are to blame for destructive actions and that they have caused "damage and panic among the people." "In no civilized nation in the world," he said, "do the laws allow a few to harm the majority but this is what is happening in my country."

He remarked that "the extreme leftwing is philosophically trying to create a socialist state in El Salvador." "If the Salvadoran people wanted this type of society," he asserted. "Nothing could stop the masses."

"The basic problem for the left is that the large majority of the people don't want Cuban- or Soviet-style communism and this has placed the local left in a quandary as to how to capitalize on its initial gains and how to stage total insurrection and to implant communism," he contended.

To Duarte, according to the Mexican newspaper, the left has (?lost) "a lot of ground in the past few months," although he admitted that it has also achieved some partial objectives such as "frightening part of the population even though some have realized what is happening and are ready to fight."

Duarte said that the presidential election in the United States will not change that country's policy toward El Salvador. "I think the American people are aware that whoever wins, the Democrats or the Republicans, the country's foreign policy will not experience radical changes as far as Latin America is concerned."

He added that regardless of whether Ronald Reagan or James Carter wins, neither "will go against a democratic government because that would amount to going against the democratic spirit of the American people themselves and against their own beliefs and convictions."

He finally noted that the current regime in El Salvador wants to have elections "in a reasonable amount of time" so that "the people can speak their minds concerning the formation of a new government."

GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS ATTACK ON LAND REFORM OFFICIAL

PA251639 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1758 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Text] The government has strongly condemned the criminal attack on Jose Rodolfo Viera, a peasant leader and president of the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation, in Santa Tecla yesterday, according to a bulletin issued by the presidency's Information Secretariat. The bulletin says that this new terrorist attack deserves total disapproval by the government and all honest citizens. The revolutionary government notes that such desperate actions will never stop land reform or the pacification and democratization efforts underway. The government once again asks the Salvadoran people for their solidarity with the revolutionary process.

GOVERNMENT DISSOLVES ELECTRICAL WORKERS UNION

PA251633 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0452 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 25 Sep (LATIN)--Last night the civilian-military government junta announced the official decision to disband the Union of Electrical Workers of the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission for violating a decree when it strayed from labor concerns and took political actions "prohibited in the constitution." The decision came as 16 union leaders are under arrest to be tried for attacking public services and possession of weapons. The government has also ordered the freezing of all the union's funds in the national banks and credit institutions.

VIOLENCE DEATH TOLL CLIMBS TO 60 IN PAST 48 HOURS

PA260133 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2345 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 25 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The toll of deaths caused by political violence today in El Salvador reached 30 victims, authorities have reported here.

Although dynamite attacks by leftwingers have diminished in the Salvadoran capital, authorities reported today the discovery of at least 20 bodies in the metropolitan area. Some eight bodies were found in Ciudad Arce, 40 km west of San Salvador, and two more were found in a rural sector of Cabanas, a mideastern department.

The occupation of a departmental radio station in San Vicente, 56 km east of San Salvador, was reported today by military authorities in the area. The reports indicate that those responsible for the occupation were members of the "Movement of Revolutionary High School Students" (MERS), affiliated with the leftist People's Revolutionary Bloc (BPR).

The 30 deaths today increases to at least 60 the victims of political violence in the past 48 hours.

Meanwhile, the occupiers of the metropolitan cathedral in San Salvador charged today that the Catholic church was machinegunned this morning by unidentified persons. There were no victims among the occupiers, who belong to a committee of mothers of political prisoners demanding the release of the prisoners by the government.

The metropolitan cathedral and three other Catholic churches in the capital have been occupied by leftist militants since Wednesday the 17th, the day the OAS offices in San Salvador were invaded by a group of militants of the opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR).

Explosions, More Deaths

PA251908 [Editorial Report] Two radio stations in El Salvador reported bombings and other violent incidents on 24 September. Radio Cadena Central reports at 1250 GMT that a bomb damaged the building of La Universal Auto Distributor along the road to Santa Tecla last night. No injuries were reported and the amount of the damage and the identities of the responsible parties are unknown.

Radio Cadena Sonora at 1805 GMT reports that a powerful explosive device went off around 2000 on 23 September at the regional livestock office in Usulutan. The bomb partially destroyed the office but there were no casualties. It is unknown who was responsible for the attack, the National Guard reported.

Radio Cadena Central reports at 1825 GMT that judicial authorities have reported finding six bodies in various parts of San Salvador this morning. Among the dead are Police Inspector Gerardo Fernandez Martinez, Jose Ricardo Duran Vasquez and Roberto Salazar Rodesno.

EXTREMISTS ATTACK TREASURY POLICE POST IN GUAZAPA

PA252335 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 24 Sep 80 p 3

[Excerpts] More than 100 extremists who came from Guazapa will attacked the city of Guazapa from midnight to 0400 today. They destroyed the treasury police office and set fire to the mayor's office. It was reported that several extremists, policemen and civilians were killed.

According to a report from the treasury police command, the attack was mainly directed at the treasury police post. The extremists first used bazookas and then powerful weapons to kill the personnel.

Treasury police headquarters also reported that a police patrol returning to San Salvador was attacked by another extremist group at approximately 0600.

It was also reported that the bodies of four extremists were found near the police post in Guazapa. Galil rifles were found near their bodies. In the suburbs of the city bloodstains were also found, so it is believed the extremists took several wounded comrades away with them. It was also said that some private homes were attacked by the extremists.

PAPER VIEWS INTERNAL WAR AMONG LEFTIST GROUPS

PA252150 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 25 Sep 80 pp 3, 11

[Excerpts] Political circles said yesterday that the internal war among the extreme leftist groups has reached such an extent that they have eliminated Ernesto Jovel, one of the top leaders of the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN), and it would not be farfetched to think that they also destroyed the facilities of the radio station YSAX.

They recalled that a few days ago a communique of the People's Liberation Forces (FPL), which was published in more than one newspaper which has ties with the left, harshly criticized Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, leader of the Salvadoran Catholic Church. The FPL accused him "of having forgotten the position assumed by Monsignor Romero."

The same circles said it would not be farfetched to think that they would be trying to silence the voice of the church. By doing so they would be achieving two objectives: to blame the attack on official sectors and to silence the voice of a potential enemy, since the church has not assumed radical position.

This is how the leftists act. They speak of human rights and condemn foreign intervention when it is not in their favor, but when it is they applaud it. That is how shameless they are, the political circles said.

GUATEMALA

LITERACY CAMPAIGN, SOCIAL PROGRAMS PLANNED

PA251706 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] The Education Ministry is making plans for the national literacy campaign and there are great plans ahead for the social development programs that will be implemented during this campaign. These programs include a house of culture, nontraditional programs, rural developments, education for the (?national) groups, programs for the minority ethnic groups, and other activities which are part of the Education Ministry's program for next year.

International organizations such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Agency for International Development, the International Reconstruction and Development Bank and others will lend technical and financial assistance for these plans, according to Leopoldo Colon Molina, deputy minister for culture at the Public Education Ministry who has commented recently on his trip to the United States.

The official added that he brought up three important topics during his visit: First, he reported on the development of the development of the educational and cultural programs being implemented; second, he checked up on the negotiations for other programs being discussed; and, third, he presented new proposals for other technical and financial assistance programs for our country, proposals which everyone welcomed with great interest.

MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST COFFEE RUST NEAR BORDER

PA251945 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] The coffee rust disease is 40 km away from the Guatemalan-Salvadoran border, said Agriculture Minister Edgar Ponciano. He admitted that the fight against the disease is related to the political problems of El Salvador.

[Begin recording] We have adopted all the measures in the book, so to speak. The quarantine posts have been fumigated. Fumigations have been intensified and a 2-km zone has been established near the Salvadoran-Honduran border, which is totally free of coffee rust disease [word indistinct] 60 technicians from the Agriculture Ministry and from the technical division of the National Coffee Association. We also have received aid from the Mexican Government in accordance with the Mexican-Guatemalan coffee rust agreement. These are the measures we are adopting here in Guatemala; the regional international organization for plant protection and animal health is adopting measures at the Central American level.

In El Salvador, the coffee rust problem is basically connected with politics. Until the Salvadoran Government and people solve their political problems, it will be very difficult to resolve their agricultural problems, among them coffee rust disease. This is because few enterprises are being developed, and no one is responsible for the coffee plantations. So until the government and the banks give their full support to the Salvadoran coffeegrowers, the growers will not be able to do much. [end recording]

HONDURAS

SALVADORAN HELICOPTER ATTACKS REFUGEES IN BORDER AREA

PA252120 Tegucigalpa Radic America in Spanish 1405 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] A serious violation of Honduran sovereignty and a new massacre of Salvadoran refugees by the Salvadoran National Guard was revealed yesterday by the regional committee for assistance to refugees in Santa Rosa de Copan diocese.

According to reports obtained yesterday, at 0830 on Sunday a Salvadoran Air Force helicopter machinegunned a hill known as Etilot Hill. The helicopter then returned to Salvadoran territory toward Arcatao village, where the strafing continued, according to the report.

GOVERNMENT ACTING TO DEAL WITH NICARAGUAN GUARDSMEN

PA252008 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Tegucigalpa--All the national officials are aware of the problems being caused by several Nicaraguans living in Honduras, Col Leonel Gutierrez Minera, population and immigration policy director, said today. Gutierrez Minera added that ways are being sought to employ the Nicaraguans without hurting Honduran workers.

In the past few days, there have been several unfavorable reports about the Nicaraguans living here, mostly former Somozist guardsmen, who are organized in armed bands that loot the Nicaraguan border area. The National Constituent Assembly has studied a report on former guardsmen who are attacking some small border towns. A group of popular organizations has set up a committee to investigate the situation and it has confirmed the existence of at least two camps of armed former guardsmen.

Gutierrez Minera said that a census of the Nicaraguans living near the border is being conducted so that should the Honduran Government so decree, it could force them to move inland. He added that any foreigner who is found guilty of committing a crime will immediately lose his resident status and will be expelled from the country.

MINISTER DENIES PRESENCE OF COFFEE RUST

PA251937 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Rodrigo Castillo today denied reports published in a San Pedro Sula newspaper and aired on a Tegucigalpa radio station saying that there is coffee rust in our country. According to the official, there would be no reason to deny the existence of the coffee rust if it existed, but it doesn't. He said that the disease has not entered our country and that he is basing his statement on technical reports that were recently delivered to him.

Castillo said that there are other blights which are affecting the country's coffee plantations such as the leaf disease [ojo de gallo], the stalk borer and mildew, but not coffee rust. If we did have coffee rust here, we would be obligated to tell the coffeegrowers about it and show them how to fight it. Also, this would not mean that there would not be any coffee produced because in countries such as Brazil the coffeegrowers have learned to live with it. He also said that the quarantine measures have been increased particularly in the areas where it was said that the rust had entered. Control points have been established in neighboring areas where there is an influx of Salvadorans coming into Honduras.

BUSINESSMEN SAID CONCERNED OVER NICARAGUAN IMPORT REDUCTION

PA251758 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1410 GMT 24 Sep 80

[Distrubuted by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Businessmen are alarmed. Honduran exports to Nicaragua have been restricted. Recently, conditions adverse to Honduran businessmen and industrialists have arisen as a result of the Nicaraguan decision to impose high taxes on Central American imports considered by the Nicaraguan Government to be luxury items.

The restrictive measure also applies to the other nations with which Nicaragua maintains commercial relations. The decision affects area countries most because it is in this area where Nicaragua registers its highest trade volume.

The Nicaraguan decision has had its greatest effect on the monetary and exchange systems. The Central Bank of Honduras has not yet commented on the matter because its board of directors is out of the country.

Many of the products which Honduras exports to Nicaragua have been affected by the resolution. So far, neither the Honduran industrialists nor the government have reacted to the situation. It has been reported that the National Industrialists Association [ANDI] is scheduled to meet on Thursday to study the situation which has restricted the currency exchange flow between the two countries and contracted bilateral trade. The contraction resulting from the drop in Nicaraguan imports of Honduran goods has caused a shift in the trade balance which in the past 6 months had favored Honduras by 10 million lempiras.

Even with the renegotiations of the bases for a new bilateral trade treaty reportedly to be signed by the two countries in January of next year, it is probable that the decrease in the exports to Nicaragua will continue as a result of that country's efforts to bolster the restrictive measures being applied to improve its economy which was largely destroyed as a result of last year's most intense revolutionary struggle.

In Guatemala, for example, the effects of the restrictions have already been felt. Guatemalan Deputy Foreign Minister Gilberto (Oporto) announced yesterday that there has been a decrease in Nicaraguan imports from his country. The reduction in purchases not only from Guatemala but from Honduras as well has been spurred by a lack of currency exchange and this of course harms all those who export goods to Managua.

Apparently, the products most affected by the Nicaraguan action are textiles, shoes, some food and medical items and some raw materials.

In view of this situation, fruitless efforts were made yesterday to determine the positions of the Central Bank of Honduras, of the secretary of the Honduran Private Enterprise Council and of ANDI. Apparently, no one wants to talk about the subject, at lease not at this time. Today officials and businessmen willing to discuss this delicate situation in order to illuminate the real state of commercial relations with Nicaragua can probably be found.

BRIEFS

GOVERNORS SWORN IN--The government minister swore in 12 new governors yesterday afternoon. The new governors were Hortensia Esmeralda Ordonez for Olancho Department, Dioses Sarmiento for Yoro, Alfredo Faraz for Choluteca, Matilde de Miralta for Atlantida, Cesar Gomez for Colon, Arturo Mejia for Comayagua, Antonio Roja for El Paraiso, Jorge A. Paguada for Intibuca, Alfonso Gonzalez for Valle, Glen Reaslomon for Islas de la Bahia, Ramon Resa H. for Santa Barbara and Rigoberto Alvarado for Copan. [Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Sep 80 PA]

NICARAGUA

JUNTA MEMBER CRUZ ON 1981 REACTIVATION PLAN, DEVALUATION

PA252221 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Government junta member Arturo Cruz defined next year's reactivation plan in two words: austerity, efficiency.

[Begin recording] The Planning Ministry authorities have been working very hard to draft this plan and publicity [words indistinct] 1980 reactivation plan. The principal characteristics of this program are austerity and efficiency.

By austerity we mean a very rigorous and demanding policy for both the government itself and the other sectors. We will be very careful in our investments and consumption. We will stress productivity; that is essential if the economic development plans are to be carried out satisfactorily. We must add one more element: honesty. That element is being provided by the comptroller's office, which has a double function, so to speak. It must be the public administration's conscience and it must also guide the honest behavior of all citizens.

[Question by unidentified speaker] [Words indistinct] could you tell us how the plans outlined by our revolution have worked? Have they been fulfilled?

[Answer] The results have been very satisfactory. Our experiences with the 1980 reactivation plan will give us a better idea of how to proceed in 1981.

Our basic objectives are being achieved. Success has been even greater in certain sectors, for instance in the agricultural and livestock sector. As to the industrial sector, the general studies currently underway (are managing) to update those sectors where we have not achieved the expected results and where our level of activities has been less than that of 1978. This is why we have adopted a number of measures, including recent regulations on the import of consumer goods. These measures are aimed at defending the balance of payments while strengthening the national production. [end recording]

During the interview Dr Cruz also discussed the situation of the cordoba. Our currency is solid and we do not foresee any devaluation, he affirmed.

[Begin recording] Our currency is solid, and I would like to deny all rumors about a possible devaluation of the cordoba. A devaluation of the cordoba would be aimed at two fundamental objectives centered on the key idea of strengthening the Nicaragua's position in foreign trade. In other words, we would make imports more expensive in order to reduce them and make them more competitive in the international (export market).

As I said yesterday at a meeting with Bank of America officials, we know very well that Nicaragua's staples, such as meat, coffee and cotton, constitute markets over which we have very little control. In other words, conditions in those markets are given, and the most we can do is join associations of countries in order to implement reforms regulating those products. But a devaluation would not help us. On the contrary, we should seek to increase our productivity. [Words indistinct] a normal harvest of 500,000 bales merely represents [words indistinct].

Now, who would benefit from a devaluation? Only a very small group, only big exports. But we would cause great harm to the people. The Nicaraguan people can be absolutely sure that the revolutionary government is not planning to devalue the currency. [end recording]

EDEN PASTORA VIEWS SOMOZA KILLING, RELATED MATTERS

PA251935 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0040 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Sep (EFE)--Sandinist leader Eden Pastora, "Commander Cero," said here today that those who killed former Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza "carried out the will of many people." The newspaper LA PRENSA published an interview with Pastora who spent a few days in Mexico on personal business visiting several relatives.

In his statements, Pastora denied that the Nicaraguan diplomats who were expelled from Paraguay had any involvement in Somoza's death. "The tyrant was killed by a group of international revolutionary commandos who dispensed justice. Justice may take a long time, but it never forgets," Pastora added.

After describing Somoza as "the greatest criminal in Latin America," the Nicaraguan leader described the Nicaraguan Government's chances of obtaining Somoza's extradition as having been very slim. He added that the Nicaraguan Government will claim the money that Somoza took out of the country but he conceded that it would be hard to get.

Eden Pastora left Mexico yesterday. He had come to pick up his daughter, Claudia Pastora Lamas.

COMMENTARY: REAGAN CONTINUES ADVOCATING USE OF FORCE

PA251651 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0500 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan had to talk more than usual this week to shake off Carter's charge that he is too belligerent. The thing is that whenever Reagan talks, his advisers tremble, because they later have to correct everything he has said.

President Carter gained some points by saying that on 4 November the voters will choose between war and peace. Because of the war between Iran and Iraq, the president had to suspend his campaign briefly and head for the White House for an emergency meeting with his secretaries, ambassadors and military and economic advisers.

Meanwhile, Reagan's popularity suffered from Carter's statement and his lead declined. He met with his political advisers, revised his strategy and thought about all that he has said in the past, which enabled his opponent to directly attack him. Reagan is still talking, talking and talking. He has been delivering speeches in which he advocates the use of force in Cuba, Panama, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Zimbabwe, Cyprus, Lebanon, Pakistan, Korea and the Middle East--yes, even the Middle East, where there is already fighting.

Let us hope that Reagan's blah-blah [as heard] does not spoil Carter's efforts to reach an agreement.

STATE COUNCIL DEMANDS CONTROLS ON SOMOZISTS IN HONDURAS

PA260002 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] Managua--The State Council has voted to demand that the Honduran Government take immediate action to control the former Somozist guardsmen now living in that country.

A proposal in this connection was submitted yesterday to the council by the Luisa Amanda Espinosa Nicaraguan Women's Association. The Foreign Committee of the State Council was placed in charge of writing the note in final form. The note will state that former members of the defunct Nicaraguan National Guard are using Honduran territory to attack Nicaraguan civilians and soldiers.

RELIEF EFFORTS BEING ORGANIZED FOR FLOODED AREAS

PA252148 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Excerpts] The National Supply Committee of the Social Welfare Ministry, working with the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute, the Farming and Livestock Development Ministry, the Sandinist Air Force, the Red Cross, the Sandinist police, the 19 July Sandinist youth, the Sandinist Defense Committees and the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association, is trying to send relief to the victims of the floods in Somotillo, Palo Grande, El Cuadro and other townships. About 150 families, including 2,544 people--1,652 adults and 892 children, have been affected by the floods. They have been moved to safer areas, where they will be given the bare essentials so they can survive.

The flood victims from Palo Grande have been taken by helicopter to Santa Paula Farm, where they can be reached by car. The Somotillo and other victims have been relocated in the homes of family and friends. So far damage has been estimated at 150 homes and 300 manzanas of basic grain crops.

Deputy Minister Claudia Belli yesterday left for the area with a ministry team to gauge the damage and expedite the sending of relief by the Social Welfare Ministry. The deputy minister urges the people to channel all donations to the victims through Companera Marcia Ramirez at the ministry in Managua.

In turn, the Nicaraguan Red Cross has reported that five volunteer brigades, including 60 people, were involved in evacuating the victims of the flooding of the Rio Grande in Matagalpa around 1900 on 24 September. The brigades took the victims to safety and gave them shelter. Now they are trying to estimate the number of people affected and what their immediate need for clothes, blankets, food and cooking appliances are since the river swept away their belongings.

In the south the damage has been estimated as follows: 42 homes flooded, 1 of which is totally destroyed, and a total of 331 victims of flood damage; in the northwest; 20 homes flooded, 2 destroyed and 121 people affected; in the north, 15 homes flooded, 1 destroyed and 74 victims. Some 180 people asked for and were given protection at the Red Cross station in Matagalpa. Sixty of them are minors. Another large group of people have been housed at the (?sawmill) next to the Matagalpa (?stadium).

These people left the Red Cross station today to see if they could recover some of their belongings since the water level is back to normal. La Hielera Brigade was also destroyed and the master pipeline that serves the city was broken. Therefore, the Red Cross, along with the Reconstruction Minister and the fire department, is sending water trucks to supply the city until service is restored.

SANDINIST YOUTH ANNOUNCES FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

PA252142 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Excerpt] The 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement will hold its first general assembly on 1 and 2 October. One thousand delegates will participate in the assembly representing the organization's 45,000 members. Companero Carlos Carrion, in charge of the Sandinist Youth, provides further details:

[Begin recording] This first national assembly of the Sandinist Youth will include a general report on the Sandinist Youth's activities since its creation. It will also include a report on the fundamental aspects of the country's political and economic situation as well as on the basic tasks the Sandinist Youth is to carry out next year. In addition, we will introduce the companeros who will assume major responsibilities within the movement.

It is important to note that 1,000 representatives will attend. They were elected directly from the movement's rank and file. [end recording]

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART HAILS SOVIET-CUBAN COOPERATION

FL252008 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2032 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] The political and economic support of the USSR for the Cuban revolution when imperialism undertook acts of aggression and blockade against our country has been highlighted by Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, at a press conference held this morning.

At the press conference held at the Palace of Conventions, Rodriguez Llompart emphasized the big development assistance which Lenin's homeland offers, the trade relations and the big credits which the USSR has granted our country. He stressed that relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union have been presented by international reaction as selfish. The truth is that they are an example of solidarity and cooperation between two peace-loving nations, he said.

Rodriguez Llompart added that the largest volume of credits have been used to cover the trade imbalance between the two countries.

The agreement signed in 1972 meant the beginning of an important phase in the expansion of Cuba-USSR cooperation, Rodriguez Llompart went on to say at the press conference. Under this agreement, he emphasized, long-term amortization credits have been granted [to Cuba]. Referring to the intergovernmental agreement of 1965, he said its total value doubles all [presumably previous] credits and the agreement stipulates, among other matters, the construction and installation of the first nuclear powerplant in addition to oil refineries and textile, nickel and sugarcane harvester plants as well as the training of Cuban technicians.

Rodriguez Llompart stressed that Cuba joined CEMA in 1972 and this opened new prospects for economic cooperation.

At the press conference held at the Palace of Conventions today, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister-president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, said the Intercosmos program aimed its activity on various fields of science, technology and economy. The program, he said, has been a valuable contribution which justifies the substantial investiments made on research work.

Rodriguez Llompart went on to discuss the significance of the Soviet-Cuban joint space flight for our country and Latin America. Cuban-Soviet cooperation will continue to expand in various sectors in the next 5-year period [1981-85], he asserted. He also said that cooperation for the training of cadres and specialists, many of whom have studied in the Soviet Union, is very important.

EMBASSY REACTS TO DOMINICAN REFUSAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

FL222357 St George's Radio Free Grenada in English 2330 GMT 22 Sep 80

[Text] The Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in St George's has issued a statement in response to a news report from the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY on Dominica's decision to refuse six scholarships to Cuba.

The CANA report stated that the Dominican Government refused the scholarships on the grounds that the students would be compelled to study Marxism-Leninism while in Cuba. It also stated that the Government of Cuba had established no proper communication with the Government of Dominica concerning the scholarships.

The release from the Cuban Embassy said that while Marxism-Leninism is taught in all the universities in Cuba as well as in other nonsocialist countries, it is not a compulsory course for foreign students.

The students may enroll if they wish to do so. The release went on to say that the Cuban Government had communicated the scholarship offer to the Government of Dominica through its embassy in St George's according to the normal channel and language described by international diplomatic protocol. The statement ended by saying that although it is [words indistinct], Cuba now has 6,000 foreign students attending its universities.

COMMENTARY ON CARTER POPULARITY, REAGAN DIFFICULTIES

FL251458 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1352 GMT 25 Sep 80

[Text] While Carter's tactic is to convince the public that his work is extremely difficult and that no problem has a simple solution, his opponent, Ronald Reagan, says there is a simple solution to all problems. Seven weeks from the U.S. presidential elections, Carter is leading in voters' preference according to a SBC [as heard]-New York TIMES poll.

Though Carter is ahead in public support--albeit by a slim margin--he could lose favor for refusing to take part in the television debate with Reagan and Anderson in Baltimore, Maryland. On the eve of the debate, the President held a press conference at which he announced new talks between the Soviet Union and the United States, something that had been recently requested in a letter by Leonid Brezhnev.

In the opinion of experts, former movie actor and Republican presidential candidate Ronald Reagan is making good use of his stage presence and ability to speak in public, learned during his Hollywood years, although he is too old and hard of hearing for the presidency. Reagan says that he is hard of hearing because a gun was fired too close to his ear but doctors say the condition is a problem of age. He is close to 70 years old; he would be 70 during the first month of his term if elected. Some people compare Reagan to William Henry Harrison, who became president in 1841 at age 68, caught pneumonia at the inauguration ceremony and died a month later. However, the candidate's greatest difficulty is not his age or his hearing loss, which he hides very well. It is the loss of stage presence when reporters ask him something specific. In a word: There is no one deafer than he who does not want to hear.

BRIEFS

PUERTO RICAN ANNIVERSARY--A cultural event, part of the days of solidarity with the struggle of the Puerto Rican people, has been held at the offices of the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] in Havana. AALAPSO official Juan Pardo read a communique on the 112th anniversary of the Grito de Lares which reiterates AALAPSO's firmest support for the just cause of the people of Betances and Albizu Campos. The AALAPSO Executive Secretariat urged the world's revolutionary and progressive parties, organizations and movements to demonstrate with all kinds of mass actions their support of the Puerto Rican separationists. It also demanded the immediate release of all Puerto Rican political prisoners and asked for the repudiation of U.S. attempts to reinforce its colonial system in the Caribbean island. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 25 Sep 80 FL]

SOVIET EXHIBIT--The special container ship (Skutor Konetko) will arrive in Cuba soon from the Soviet Union carrying the exhibit "The Cosmos at the Service of Peace and Progress." The exhibit will be inaugurated in October at the Cuban pavillion in Havana covering an area of 2,000 square meters. A mockup of the Salyut 6-Salyut Progress space research station will occupy the central place of the exhibit. A special place will be devoted to international cooperation of the countries of the socialist community within the Intercosmos program. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2006 GMT 25 Sep 80 FL]

GUYANA

JOINT FISHING COMPANY TO BE SET UP WITH LIBYA

FL251600 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sunday, (CANA)--Guyana and Libya have agreed to set up a fishing company in which Guyana would have 51 percent of the shares, Libyan Charge d'Affaires in Georgetown Taher Daloub disclosed yesterday.

Each country would have three representatives on the board of directors for the joint company which would have a Libyan as general manager and a Guyanese as the chairman of the board, Mr. Daloub told CANA.

Final agreement on the joint venture was reached here this week during talks between a two-man team from the Libyan Secretariat of Light Industries and Guyana Government fishery officials.

Dr. Daloub said the size of initial capital outlay of the company was still confidential but disclosed that each side agreed to deposit 30 per cent of the figure as a starting account before the first board of directors meeting to get the project off the ground.

The board of directors is to have its inaugural meeting early December in Guyana when questions on the size of the fishing fleet, the extent of the work force and site headquarters would be settled, he said.

Guyana has already been agreed on as the base of operations and two state fisheries operations have been suggested as possible offices for the headquarters.

According to Mr. Daloub, the company is expected to become operational by mid-1981, when fishing trawlers and new equipment for the company are expected to be delivered here.

Guyana has already named its three representatives for the board of directors but the names have not been disclosed here. Libya is to appoint its representatives when the two-man team returns home.

Initial agreement on the proposed company was reached in January this year when a Guyana team headed by permanent secretary in the Foreign Ministry Harry Dyett visited Libya. Guyana has already incorporated the company as a legal entity and Mr. Daloub said the discussions this week have settled all other details, including the granting of licences, areas of opeations and operational details.

The establishment of the joint company comes under an economic cooperation programme drawn up when a Libyan team visited Guyana in April last year.

Agreement on the fishing company is the first major cooperation project being undertaken under the cooperation scheme, which also envisages the export of Guyana bauxite, rice and sugar to Libya.

U.S., OTHERS BLAMED FOR FAILURE OF UN SESSION

FL230100 St George's Radio Free Grenada in English 2330 GMT 22 Sep 80

[Excerpt] Guyana has blamed the United States and some developed countries for the failure of the recent United Nations special session on a new international [economic] order to make any progress. A Guyana Foreign Ministry statement said it was universally acknowledged that the discussions were disappointing in their achievement with the result of a definite standstill to global negotiations. The statement said this was caused by determined opposition from the United States and other countries which revealed increasing hardening of positions in areas of vital economic interest.